NHDES

The State of New Hampshire **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner



Dear Auto Recycler:

Starting now, New Hampshire's motor vehicle salvage facilities can be reimbursed for removing mercury switches from the vehicles they process!

Under the National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recovery Program (NVMSRP) a \$4 million fund was established to reward dismantlers/recyclers who remove and recycle mercury light switches. On a first-come, first-served basis, NVMSRP will reimburse participants \$1.00 each for convenience light switches and \$3.00 each for ABS switches. The *End of Life Vehicle Solutions* (ELVS), a not for profit corporation formed by the automotive manufacturers, helps administer the program by providing educational materials and by collecting and recycling the automotive mercury switches.

To participate in this program:

1. You must first sign up with ELVS to join the program. Fill out the attached form and mail it to:

End of Life Vehicle Solutions PO Box 3282 Farmington Hills, MI 48333-3282

You can also sign up by calling ELVS at (877) 225-3587 or by visiting their web site at www.elvsolutions.org (use "contact" tab). If you contact ELVS by either of these two methods, make sure you provide your shipping address; they will not send a bucket to a post office box.

- 2. Once you sign up, ELVS will send you a free collection bucket, updated educational materials about mercury switch removal, a list of vehicles known to contain mercury switches, and an instruction sheet for shipping the ELVS bucket. When you are ready to return a full bucket of switches, ELVS will provide you with a replacement bucket at no cost to you.
- 3. When ELVS receives your filled bucket, they will count the number of switches and send you the appropriate reimbursement.

A few other important points:

- You are not required to remove the mercury switch "bullet" from the light switch housing; you can just place the housing in the bucket. If you choose to remove the "bullets," you may send no more than 450 bullets (one pound's worth of mercury) at one time.
- Do not remove glass "bullets" from light switch housings as they can break in-transit.
- ELVS can supply you either a 3.5-gallon or 1-gallon bucket. If you remove the "bullets" from the housings, you might want the smaller bucket.

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The National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recycling Program (NVMSRP) was formed as the result of an agreement reached in August, 2006, by the associations and individuals representing dismantlers, automotive steel and scrap industries, environmental groups, and a national group representing state government environmental agency officials and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency.

We hope you will join this important initiative and work cooperatively to protect New Hampshire's environment. If you have any questions, please contact me at (603) 271-2956.

Sincerely,

Paul Lockwood, Supervisor

NH Pollution Prevention Program